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LADAS & PARRY L.A.

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Response
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Application No.: 09/747,209) Date: March 21, 2002
Applicant: Wei-Fan Chen)
Filed: December 22, 2000) Examiner Dana Farahani
For: "Electrostatic Discharge Protection) Group Art Unit 2814
Circuit...") Our Ref: 618463-2/RPB
) B-4068

FAX RECEIVED

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 21 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action dated January 21, 2003. All remarks herein are made without prejudice.

REMARKS

As explained to the Examiner during a telephone conversation on March 19, 2003, the assertion that node 36 of Dobkin (Figure 12) is a floating node is clearly wrong. It is obvious that node 36 is not a floating node, but is connected to the positive potential V+ (note the "V+" sign next to the numeral "36" in Fig. 2 and col. 5, lines 47-49). If the node 36 is floated, the entire SCR circuit of Dobkin would not function. Detailed discussions on this regard are provided below.

Applicants believe that with this issue being resolved, it is clear that the present application is patentable over the cited art. However, should the Examiner disagrees with this, he is encouraged to contact the Applicant's